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## James A. Himes Congress of the United States 4th District Connecticut

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April 30, 2021

Chairwoman Rosa DeLauro H-307 The Capitol First St SE Washington, DC 20515 Ranking Member Kay Granger 1036 Longworth House Office Building 1 Independence Ave SE Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger,

I am requesting funding for Save the Sound's project to remove Dana Dam from the Norwalk River and conduct ecological monitoring around the site in Fiscal Year 2022. This request is for the State and Tribal Assistance Grants program under the Environmental Protection Agency. The entity to receive funding for the project is Save the Sound, located at 900 Chapel Street, Suite 2202, New Haven, CT 06510.

Save the Sound, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, is seeking \$475,000 to remove Dana Dam – also known as Strong Pond Dam – a derelict 6-foot high and 90-foot long run-of-river dam located nine miles upstream from the Long Island Sound at Merwin Meadows Park in Wilton, CT. This project will help replace a stagnant man-made impoundment with 1,400 linear feet of free-flowing stream channel and over 1.5 acres of riparian buffer habitat, create a 14-mile stretch of uninterrupted riverine migratory corridor for diadromous fish, enhance water quality, improve public safety, and mitigate flood risk for nearby homes, businesses, and transit infrastructure.

Providing funding to support the removal and ecological monitoring of Dana Dam would be an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because it would result in a host of public safety, climate resiliency, recreational, and ecological benefits for wildlife and the community.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project. I appreciate your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Member of Congress